

SOAPSTone

Speaker
Occasion
Audience
Purpose
Subject
Tone

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Speaker

The voice that tells the story.

Before authors begin to write, they must decide whose voice is going to be heard.

Whether this voice belongs to a fictional character or to the writers themselves, effective writers determine how to insert and develop those attributes of the speaker that will influence the perceived meaning of the piece.

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Occasion

The time and the place of the piece; the context that prompted the writing.

Writing does not occur in a vacuum.

All writers are influenced by the larger occasion: an environment of ideas, attitudes, and emotions that swirl around a broad issue. Then there is the immediate occasion: an event or situation that catches the writer's attention and triggers a response.

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Audience

The group of readers to whom this piece is directed.

Before authors begin to write, they must determine who the audience is that they intend to address.

It may be one person or a specific group.

This choice of audience will affect how and why authors write a particular text.

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Purpose

The reason behind the text.

Writers need to consider the purpose of the text in order to develop the thesis or the argument and its logic.

They ask themselves, "What do I want my audience to think or do as a result of reading my text?"

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Subject

The central topic.

Before authors begin to write, they must decide whose voice is going to be heard.

Whether this voice belongs to a fictional character or to the writers themselves, effective writers determine how to insert and develop those attributes of the speaker that will influence the perceived meaning of the piece.

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Tone

The attitude of the author.

The spoken word can convey the speaker's attitude and thus help to impart meaning through tone of voice.

With the written word, it is **tone** that extends meaning beyond the literal, and authors must convey this tone in their

diction (choice of words)

syntax (sentence construction)

imagery (metaphors, similes, and other types of

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More about

Tone

Tone is the author's/narrator's attitude toward the subject.

Tone is different from **mood**, which is **the emotional feeling produced by the passage**.

The tone and the mood of a passage may indeed be the same, but on the AP Language exam, you will